

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

14 October 1980

Mr. Alfred Goldberg
OSD Historian
Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense
Washington, D. C. 20301

Dear Mr. Goldberg:

We have reviewed the 36 pages of excerpts from your "History of the Office of the Secretary of Defense: The Formative Years, 1947-1950" and are pleased to pose no objection to the declassification of most of the text, even though some of the source material itself remains classified. There are three passages that we must ask you to delete and two others that present special problems perhaps requiring further information from you. Each of these is explained below.

The following portions of the text should be deleted, as they are still classified under paragraph 1-301 (c) of Executive Order 12065 and would cause identifiable damage to our national security if released:

Chapter IV, page 19 - last 5 lines (also delete reference which is apparently on page 20, not given to us for review.)

Chapter IV, page 39 - last 8 lines

For your convenience we are attaching copies of these pages on which the portions to be deleted have been highlighted.

STATINTL

On page 38 of Chapter V, the phrase [redacted] should be deleted or replaced by wording more consistent with the content of ORE 3-49. Nowhere in the estimate do the authors of ORE 3-49 make such a statement. Incidentally, in line 10 of this same page there is a handwritten change that is unreadable on our copy.

STATINTL

OSD HAS NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION AND RELEASE.

OSD review(s) completed.

The source cited for Chapter V, pages 38 and 39 is the Army dissent to the estimate ORE 3-49 mentioned above. This dissent is part of the estimate. While the estimate remains classified at the CONFIDENTIAL level, this passage should be referred to Army to see if they object to their separate views being made public.

References in Chapter VI to [redacted] articles in Studies in Intelligence present difficulties because of the lack of specific sourcing. First of all, the two articles in Studies have not been declassified, nor do we plan to take such STATINTL action. Secondly, [redacted] merely listed his sources without connecting them to applicable portions of the text. We feel, STATINTL therefore, that [redacted] must specify exact primary sources for this section before we can consider it. Incidentally, footnote #16 on page 10, even though repeated from Studies, appears to be erroneous, as SE-23 deals with an entirely different area of the world.

STATINTL

Sincerely,

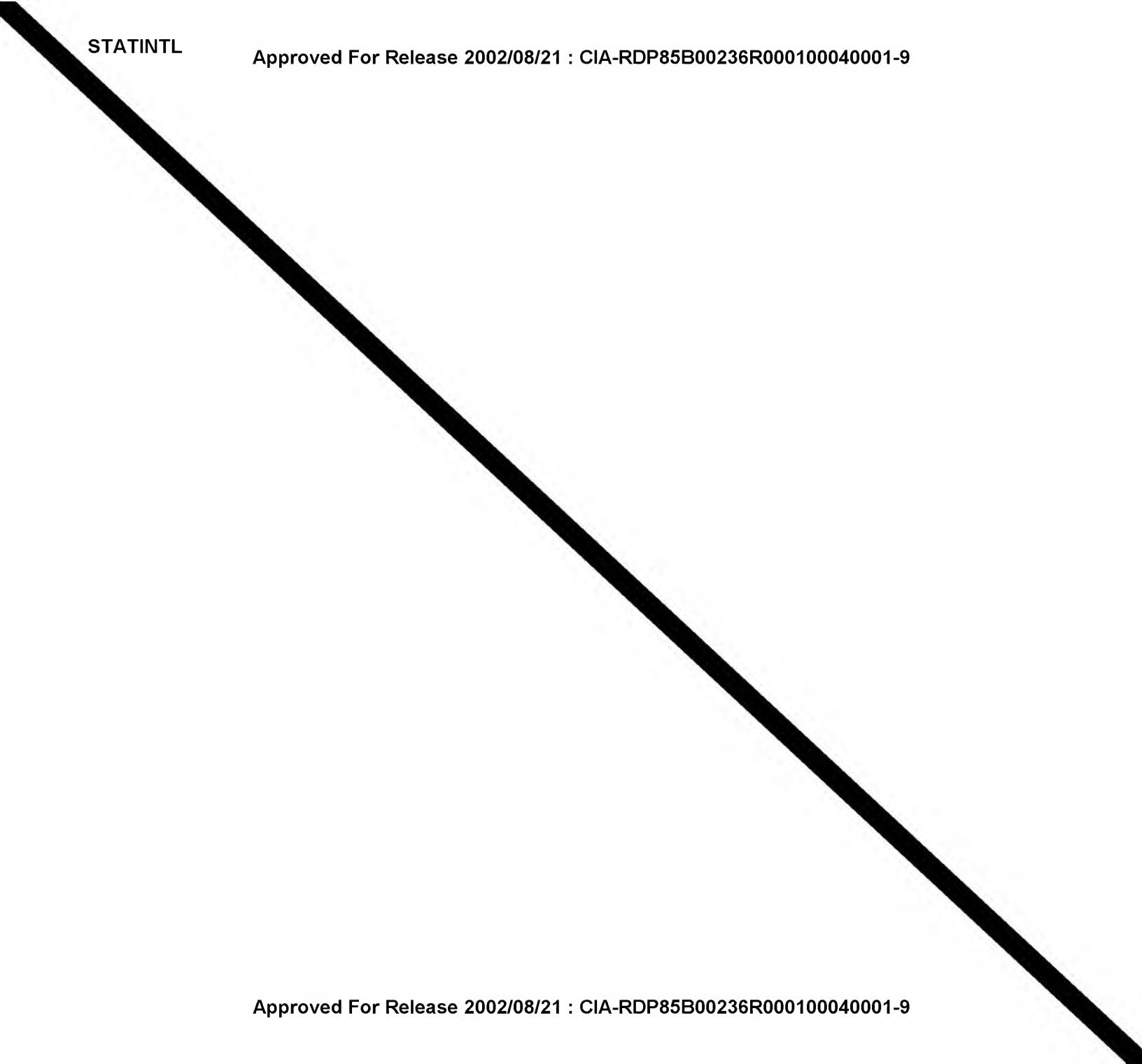
[redacted]
Chief, Classification Review Division
Office of Information Services
Directorate of Administration

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Attachment: Pages IV-19, IV-39,
and V-38 with deletions
highlighted.

STATINTL



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SECRET

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OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

COMPTROLLER
(Administration)

September 16, 1980

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[REDACTED]
Director, Office of Information Systems
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

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[REDACTED]
The OSD Historical Office is preparing a Study tentatively entitled "History of the Office of the Secretary of Defense: The Formative Years, 1947-1950." A number of classified Central Intelligence Agency documents have served as a basis for parts of the text, as indicated on the attached list of notes and manuscript pages.

We would like to secure declassification of the manuscript in order to expedite both its critical review inside and outside of the Department of Defense and its preparation for publication. Thus we are requesting you to review those portions of the text based on CIA documents. If you have any objection to publication of the text as presented, please let me know. I would appreciate it if you would respond by October 15, 1980.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Alfred Goldberg
OSD Historian

Enclosure

SECRET

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This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the CIA. It has been reviewed and approved for release under the CIA's automatic declassification schedule. Its contents do not necessarily reflect current CIA positions or policies.
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I-13

area its name implied (section 214); and the Joint Chiefs of Staff were made the Secretary's military advisers (section 211). In addition, the law authorized the Joint Chiefs to establish unified commands in strategic areas and to create a Joint Staff, under a Director, of 100 officers to assist with military planning. Also, the law made it clear that the Joint Chiefs were to perform their duties as either the President or the Secretary of Defense should direct.

(U) Beyond setting up the National Military Establishment, the National Security Act also created a new mechanism for the development of national policy. With President Truman's grudging approval, Congress accepted the Eberstadt recommendations for a National Security Council (NSC) and a National Security Resources Board (NSRB) to provide regular high-level consultation and coordination of policy. Membership on the NSC consisted of the President, the Secretaries of State, Defense, and the three military Services, the Chairman of the NSRB, and other officials whom the President might choose to designate. Leaving the details up to the President, Congress indicated that the mission of the NSC should be to assist in integrating domestic, foreign, and military policies by providing timely advice and recommendations concerning the objectives, commitments, and risks to national security (section 101).

(S) Directly under the NSC, Congress established the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), which replaced the Central Intelligence Group (CIG), an interdepartmental coordinating committee set up by Executive Order in 1946. As with the NSC, Congress left the running of the CIA in the hands of the President. The head of the agency was designated the Director of Central Intelligence (DCI), who could be either a civilian or a military

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1-14

officer. His main tasks were to correlate and evaluate foreign and military intelligence, make recommendations to the NSC for the coordination of intelligence, and protect intelligence sources and methods from unauthorized disclosure. As part of its job, the CIA was also authorized to perform "such other functions and duties" as directed by the NSC (section 102). The intent of Congress in this regard was that the CIA should develop, as deemed necessary by the NSC, capabilities for foreign espionage and other clandestine activities.^{1/}

(U) To advise the President on matters of military, civilian, and industrial mobilization, Congress made provision for a National Security Resources Board (section 103). Like the War Production Board (WPB) of World War II, the NSRB was expected to develop and implement in time of national emergency comprehensive policies and programs of economic mobilization. In certain respects, the functions of the NSRB overlapped with those of the Munitions Board, a fact that led to jurisdictional quarrels and bureaucratic in-fighting after the National Security Act took effect.^{2/} Except for the appointment of a chairman, the Act made no specific provision for NSRB membership. This matter was cleared up when in November 1947 President Truman issued Executive Order 9905 designating the Secretaries of Defense, Treasury, Interior, Agriculture, Commerce, and Labor to serve along with the chairman as members of the board.

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